

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: SCHERER Examiner: E. MORGAN
Serial No.: 09/691,864 Group Art Unit: 3723
Filed: OCTOBER 19, 2000 Docket: 3616.177US11
Confirmation No.: 5410
Due Date: JANUARY 12, 2003 (30 DAY DATE)
Title: BLOCK SPLITTING ASSEMBLY AND METHOD



CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Box AF, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on January 10, 2003.

By: Teresa D. Morgan
Name: Teresa D. Morgan

Box AF
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- ☒ Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- ☒ Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 3 Reference(s), Copy of Partial International Search Report
- ☒ Check(s) in the amount of \$180.00 for Information Disclosure Statement Fee
- ☒ Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
612.332.5300



By: James A. Larson
Name: James A. Larson
Reg. No.: 40,443
JLarson:PSTtdm

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SN 09/691,864

PATENT

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d))

Box AF
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231



Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. At least some of the references were recently cited in an International Search Report mailed December 13, 2002.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted after the mailing date of a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 or after the mailing date of the Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311 or after any other action that closes prosecution on the application, but before the payment of the issue fee. Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$180.00 for the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). This statement is submitted as certified below under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1) or (2) by the undersigned.

Certification Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1)

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) or § 1.97(d), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application within three months of filing this statement.

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Certification Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d)

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item listed on the enclosed Form 1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty (30) days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. Accordingly, no patent term adjustment is due for the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

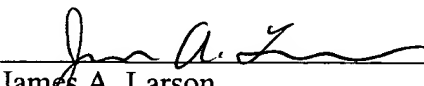
Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P. O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
612.332.5300

Date January 10, 2003


James A. Larson
Reg. No. 40,443
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